to ICSSR which has been causing a lot of hardships and heart-burns among social scientists and non-academic staff working in 27 research centers across the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of steps proposed to be taken for streamlining of ICSSR and mitigating the hardships and grievances of its staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) As per information provided by ICSSR, there is no such controversy.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Grants are being released to the Council regularly. In fact, the budget of the Council has been substantially enhanced during the last two years.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Replacement of ICSSR Chairman

3613. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a demand for replacement of the ICSSR Chairman, for alleged irregularities in the running of the research body; and

(b) if so, what is Government's decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Complaints were received from some of the sitting members of the Council regarding various irregularities committed by the Chairman, ICSSR. The Government looked into the matter and withdrew the nomination of Prof. M.L. Sondhi as Chairman, ICSSR. Prof. Sondhi has filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court and the matter is subjudice.

Mining in tribal areas in AP by non-tribals

3614. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to amend the Fifth Scheduled of the